



February 20, 2023

To: Members of the Minnesota House & Senate

Re: HF1030 / SF1264

The Minnesota Association of Health Underwriters (MAHU) is the largest association that represents health insurance and employee benefit agents. Our clients are individuals and employers throughout the state. More than any other group, we represent the voice of consumers.

Our members work closely with Minnesotans every day to support enrollment in products that are structured to support their varied and specific circumstances. While this proposal might create a product that some Minnesotans would choose, the fact is most Minnesotans pick a plan that balances their monthly premium payments and the out-of-pocket expense in their plan. The prohibition on cost sharing in HF1030/SF1264 would eliminate that choice for Minnesotans, treat them as if all their needs were the same, and likely result in thousands of Minnesotans dropping their coverage due to affordability issues. MAHU therefore urges your opposition to the proposal.

According to MNsure, most Minnesotans purchase a bronze level product which carries the lowest premiums available through a 60%/40% premium to cost sharing ratio. Minnesotans have previously had the option to purchase a platinum 90%/10% premium to cost sharing ratio product. That highest premium product was dropped from product offerings due to lack of consumer demand. MAHU urges the committee to oppose the legislative language that eliminates choice and mandates Minnesotans to only have the option to purchase a 100% premium product. Despite health care being very expensive, Minnesota currently has a high rate of coverage and a low rate of those who do not seek care due to cost. We support efforts to further improve Minnesotans access to care at a more affordable level, but HF1030/SF1264 will have the opposite effect.

MAHU urges the committee to reject HF1030/SF1264 because it restricts the number of consumer choices and the corresponding increase in premiums will increase the number of uninsured Minnesotans.